

Pawtuxet River Authority and Watershed Council
8 Hope Furnace Road, Hope, RI 02831
401 615-7039 - www.pawtuxet.org

Monthly Board Meeting

PRA Office, Hope – March 4, 2013

Board Members Present: Bob Nero, Michael Breault, Tara Digre, Jack Donovan, Scott Goodinson, Rita Holahan, Jack Lancellotta (arrived 8:07 p.m.), Arthur Langlais, Ginny Leslie, Paul Lockett, Mike Maddalena, Brian Manning, Steve McAllister

Board Members Absent: Bridget Skuce

Associate Member Present: Ross Adrain (arrived 8:00 p.m.)

Guest Present: Ray Wolf

Call to Order

Mr. Nero called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was distributed and on a motion by Mr. Breault, seconded by Mr. Langlais, it was approved as presented.

Approval of February, 2013 Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Goodinson, seconded by Mr. McAllister, the board approved the minutes as submitted with a change to the section on

the Capuano landfill.

Recommendation for James Johnson Appointment

Mr. Nero reported that the Town Clerk of Scituate, on behalf of the town council, requested a recommendation from the PRA for James Johnson as a PRA representative from that town. On a motion by Ms. Leslie, seconded by Mr. Breault, the board voted unanimously to approve the appointment.

Spring 2013 Clean-up Schedule and other Events

Mr. Nero reported that Johnson & Wales University is interested in participating in PRA clean-ups this year. Events will be held April 6 at Veterans' Square and the brook that runs from Madison Pond to the River; April 13 at Arkwright to Harris Riverwalk; and April 20 and 27 along the main stem. The Warwick and Cranston representatives should determine locations for the April 20 and 27 events; this clean-up will need boats in the water. Mr. Nero recommended we purchase an electric trolling motor and battery for our boat; cost would be approximately \$500-600. Our gas motor does not work well for maneuvering in clean-ups. On a motion by Mr. Goodinson, seconded by Mr. Breault, the board voted to authorize Mr. Nero to purchase a motor and battery, not to exceed \$600.

Mr. Nero would also like to schedule a canoe event for PRA board members at Veterans Square in early May. He would also like the PRA to participate somehow in Chuck Horbert's major Rhode Island

paddling event in June. The group will be at the Pontiac canoe launch on June 11.

The First Annual Pawtuxet River Authority Freshwater Bass Tournament will be held at Johnson's Pond on Saturday, September 7; up to 60 boats could participate. This event will be coordinated with the Scituate Bass Anglers.

Coventry Representatives Meeting with Nathaneal Greene Homestead

Mr. Breault and Mr. Donovan reported on their meeting with David Procacinni, President of the General Nathaneal Greene Homestead (GNGH). Clariant is negotiating to donate significant acreage to the GNGH between the homestead and the river; this donation might include the dam. Mr. Procacinni has asked the PRA to get involved with installing a portage (putting two canoe put-ins/take outs upstream and downstream from the dam). The Homestead will be receiving a large donation from a family; some of this may be used for fencing around the property and some may go toward the portage. Ms. Holahan suggested that several PRA members make a site visit; Mr. Breault agreed to set this up. Mr. Donovan agreed to get information on the lots involved.

New England Saltwater Fishing Show

Volunteers are needed for the PRA table at this event at the

Convention Center on March 8-10 . Messrs. Maddalena, Manning, Breault and Donovan will be there.

Land & Water Conservation Summit

This event will be held March 9 at URI. Mr. Donovan will attend.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Holahan distributed copies of and reviewed the report, which included updates on the savings and checking accounts. Mr. McAllister and Mr. Goodinson gave an update on the Warwick payment. The sale of land to Gannon & Scott has been completed and we have received \$20,000 for that parcel. The PRA will have an audit soon; this is scheduled this year because of the large grants we have received for the Pawtuxet fish passage project and major storm-related river debris removal.

Bylaw change

Ms. Holahan discussed the addition of language to the bylaws regarding board member participation in events; this proposed change was e-mailed to board members prior to the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Lancellotta, seconded by Mr. Goodinson, the board voted unanimously to approve this change.

Roch Project at Veterans' Square

Ms. Holahan reported that she and Ms. Skuce are working with the Roch family on planning an event (possibly in June) for a dedication

of a memorial.

Fund-raising Committee

The committee will meet soon; Ms. Holahan will communicate with committee members to set a date.

Harris Mill

Mr. Nero reported that there are new owners of the Harris Mill; they are installing new windows. They also own the Anthony mill which is being rehabilitated for residential condos.

Adjournment: On a motion by Ms. Digre, seconded by Mr. Goodinson, the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Leslie, Secretary**